

United States Patent and Trademark Office

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-----------------|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| 09/912,730 | 07/24/2001 | J. Phillip Horne | 5441-001 5514 | |
| 25184 7 | 7590 04/20/2006 | | EXAMINER | |
| WILLIAM J. MASON | | | WEISBERGER, RICHARD C | |
| MACCORD MASON PLLC POST OFFICE BOX 1489 | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH, NC 28480 | | | 3624 | |
| | | | DATE MAILED: 04/20/2006 | |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

| APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION | | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | |
|------------------------------|-------------|--|----------|---------------------|--|
| 09/912,730 | | | | | |
| , | | | | EXAMINER | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER | |
| | | | | 04122006 | |

DATE MAILED:

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner for Patents

Richard C Weisberger Primary Examiner Art Unit: 3624

Application/Control Number: 09/912,730 Page 2

Art Unit: 3624

1. The reply filed on 1/30/2006 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): It failed to respond to the species election set forth paragraphs 4 and 5 of the previous office action. See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be bona fide, applicant is given ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Richard C Weisberger whose telephone number is 571 272 6753. The examiner can normally be reached during the hours of Maxiflex.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vince Millin can be reached on 571 272 6747. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Picflard C Weisberger Primary Examiner Art Unit 3624 Application/Control Number: 09/912,730

Art Unit: 3624

Page 3